

CALIFORNIA'S HEALTH

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STATE SAFEGUARDS FOODS AND DRUGS

The Bureau of Food and Drug Inspection of the California State Department of Public Health is active in the enforcement of those laws that have to do with the maintenance of standards in foods and drugs that are distributed throughout the State. Not only are the Pure Foods Act and the Pure Drugs Act enforced by this bureau, but also the Food Sanitation Act, Sanitary Bakery Law, Imported Egg Law, Cold Storage Act, and the California Olive Oil Law. The month of January brought a wide variety of activities conducted by this bureau. The following resumé provides information relative to the extensive work carried on by the Bureau:

Frozen Foods

Laboratory reports on six lots of frozen Brussels sprouts, representing a total of 125,000 pounds, showed all to be contaminated with aphids, worm fragments, and dirt—ranging from 28 to 52 per cent passable. Since the laboratory examination confirmed the field examination, the entire lot was placed under quarantine. This is the first step in an attempt to control the relatively new but rapidly growing fresh frozen food industry. Many plants, particularly in the interior valleys where foods are being frozen, were inspected during the month. It was found that during seasons when there is high insect infestation, such as the one that has just passed, producers have discarded as much as 53 per cent of the raw material. In the case just mentioned only about 15 per cent had been discarded as unfit before packing. Also, the plant where the sprouts were packed lacked adequate washing equipment.

In another place where broccoli was being processed a most primitive arrangement was in use. Battered

wooden tanks containing murky water were used to rinse the broccoli. It is necessary that apparatus used for this purpose be steam cleaned. With the development of the industry, improved sanitary processing methods will follow.

Sandwich Spread

Complete investigations of factories in Los Angeles and San Francisco where a sandwich spread is manufactured were carried on during the month because of reports that the product was contaminated with glass. No evidence that might indicate the cause of the difficulty was discovered for ample precautions are taken in safeguarding against accidents of this sort. It was found, however, that new glass containers with roughened edges are being received with increasing frequency. When the lid is applied, the glass chips quite readily.

Nut Meats

The following actions taken by the bureau during January indicate the extent of its program to prohibit the introduction of worm infested and damaged nut meats into trade channels:

1. The quarantine of 3,400 lbs. of walnut meats in Los Angeles, low-grade nut meats found in use at bakeries. Insect infestation during the past season was so great as to make practically mandatory that fumigation be undertaken after final packaging.
2. Almost a ton of apricot kernels, used in the manufacture of kernel paste, were destroyed in San Francisco. The lot had been stored in a rodent-infested warehouse and it had become badly contaminated with rodent excreta and worm infestation.

3. A considerable lot of shelled peanuts—28,710 lbs.—had remained in storage for too long a period (about one year). Insect infestation had been pronounced—though belated fumigation had killed all live infestation. In cooperation with the United States Food and Drug Administration the lot was restrained because the damage done had been extensive. Meanwhile, 13,400 lbs. of peanuts held in quarantine, were released for the manufacture of peanut butter, following cleaning and reconditioning.
4. Likewise, in a San Francisco retail store, 125 packages of roasted peanuts were found being offered for sale in an advanced stage of infestation. The lot was voluntarily condemned and destroyed.
5. 1,150 lbs. of shelled cashews imported into San Francisco were quarantined because of excessive worm damage and infestation.

Imitation Coffee

Although the rationing of coffee has been discontinued, the sale of imitation coffee or coffee mixers continues without abatement. A mixture of 80 per cent coffee and 20 per cent garbanza beans intended for the Los Angeles restaurant trade was inspected. The entire stock of 300,000 lbs. of the beans were found weevil-infested in varying degrees. Three thousand sacks were quarantined pending segregation of the infested portion of the lot. The difficulties encountered with the sale of imitation coffee or coffee mixers is an example of the difficulty that is met in raising food standards after former high levels have been reduced. The road back is always difficult.

Dried Fruit

Since large quantities of dried fruit are produced in California, the amounts that are inspected are of great volume. The following resumé of activities in the control of dried apples, prunes and raisins, indicates the enormous volume of work that is involved in the maintenance of high standards in such products.

Apples

Of the quarantined 1942 and 1943 crops:
135,000 lbs. sold for consumption abroad.
30,000 lbs. reconditioned as fit for domestic food.
70,000 lbs. representing pickouts; re-quarantined for final disposal.

235,000 lbs.—Total.

Prunes

576,000 of quarantined prunes at San Jose were given effective double washings after sack sorting, followed by belt sorting. The sorting eliminated 20,000 lbs. which were diverted to distillation. The balance was used for making prune juice. On the other hand, 126,000 lbs. at two northern California plants were too badly contaminated to warrant reconditioning. The entire lot was consigned for distillation.

Raisins

Similar treatment was accorded to 5,660 lbs. of golden bleach raisins which had been used to "salt" a pack of better quality raisins.

Miscellaneous Activities in Food Control

The supervised trimming and reconditioning of a large lot of cheese in Los Angeles, resulted in the elimination of 661 lbs. However, 12,352 lbs. were thereby salvaged for consumption.

Various staples taken from an overseas boat were quarantined and segregated in San Francisco. The products involved were eggs, flour, rice, butter, and chickens. A total of over two tons of mildewed, weevil infested, and decomposed products were condemned to chicken feed and to the tallow works.

Other damaged foods, which included spray contaminated summer savory; worm infested curry powder; deceptively packed macaroni products; water damaged sugar and soup mix; were quarantined in San Francisco pending supervised salvage operations.

Weevil-infested macaroni products on retail shelves is becoming more common as servicing by the distributors becomes less regular. Another lot of 43 lbs. was destroyed in a Los Angeles chain store; dealers were instructed to avoid such spoilage by better supervision.

Further, official samples of a very dark olive oil complained of for causing nausea to a consumer in Los Angeles, were obtained; and the source of the oil investigated.

Likewise, information regarding the alleged sales of horse meat from animals which had died other than by slaughter, was investigated in the Santa Rosa-Petaluma area. As yet, such rumors have not been authenticated.

Hamburger sampled in the Los Angeles area was submitted for analysis, and reported as containing 37 per cent fat.

In the same area, misbranded soda water (unlabeled) was found being delivered from Nevada. Even in this field an overcharge of 3½ cents per bottle was found. The product was officially sampled.

One of the largest selling dried dog foods is to be subjected to feeding tests on live animals at the University of California at Berkeley. The results of the tests should do much toward clearing perennial reports that the product causes convulsions. Repeated chemical tests have failed to reveal any deleterious constituents.

Food Sanitation

The sanitation of dried fruit plants constitute a major part of the program carried on during January. Striking results have been attained in the San Joaquin

Valley as the result of this activity. Reinspection showed that 20 plants out of 23 inspected were in a sanitary condition. Only one of the three faulty plants showed major filthy conditions. The following improvements are typical of those that have been brought about recently:

1. Installation of boilers, reconstruction of floors, lengthening already existing steam lines to facilitate cleaning and sterilization of storage bins, equipment, and machinery.
2. Improvement of methods to clean the finished products more adequately.
3. Installation of screens and closing of openings to prevent insect contamination.
4. Removal of waste products and debris to eliminate insect and rodent breeding and harboring places. Provision for competent rodent exterminating services has been made.
5. Installation or repair of previously nonexistent or inadequate toilet facilities.
6. Other sanitary improvements, such as cleaning, painting and lighting.

Olive Oil Manufacturing Plants

Sanitary inspections of olive oil plants in the interior valleys received careful attention during the month. In some of these places, practices which prevailed in Europe, extending back through past centuries, are still being used. The use of moldy, decomposed raw materials, according to these antiquated practices and beliefs, are necessary for the production of a superior oil. As a result, gross insanitation prevails. It is the object of the bureau to determine the best sanitary practices that should be followed and put them into use.

Restaurants

Inspection of retail food serving establishments was carried on assiduously in northern California. Inspections made in Sonoma County in cooperation with the County Health Department showed that remarkable improvements have been brought about in this area. The responsibility of the local health department produced a strong effect in the attainment of the desired results.

Miscellaneous Activities in Food Sanitation

In Santa Clara County a cannery made major alterations which required practically the rebuilding of the entire plant before sanitary requirements were met. In Los Angeles a rodent infested insanitary tamale plant was inspected and large quantities of infested potatoes and corn were revealed. It became necessary to condemn these products for hog feed. The owner was cited for violation of the law and for negligent food waste. A processing plant agreed to cease opera-

tions until the premises, equipment and utensils had been thoroughly cleaned. This agreement resulted from a joint inspection of the bureau with the United States Food and Drug Administration. A pickle packing plant also was inspected and required to improve the sanitary conditions.

A confectionery, poultry slaughter-house, salvage firm, and a fruit syrup plant in the San Francisco Bay area, as well as a mustard and vinegar works plant in the northern end of the State, were all given thorough cleanings as a result of the bureau's activities.

Imported Egg Products

During January 473,000 lbs. of frozen and dried egg products were imported into California from other States. All lots were examined and checked for proper certification and code numbers. All were found to be in compliance with the provisions of the law.

Enforcement of Pure Drugs Act

In San Francisco, an individual submitted the formula for an ointment which, he proclaims by document, "cures the following sickness or diseases:

"Syphilis in the Brain or any part in the body
T.B. on the throat t.b. of the bones of Lungs
heart troubles ulcers of the stomach cancer on the
bones strock of Paralysis old venouva for all these
diseases one treatment in the Blood."

The formula for the ointment follows:

"6 oz. oil of green walnuts
10 oz. oil of large walnuts
7 oz. mar of beef
10 oz. Soot of Lamb
1 oz. Crystal Soap
32 oz. Bee Wax"

Though not quite as pronounced, nostrums are constantly being submitted for every disease. Remedies for arthritis—generally simple rubefacients containing oil of mustard—predominate. At Los Angeles two individuals voluntarily agreed to cease distributing entirely (1) misbranded vitamins and, (2) an alleged cure for arthritis which had been offered for sale at war plants. The product was a vegetable cathartic.

A chiropractor operating an establishment under a fictitious title was found in Los Angeles marketing a product which is part of a \$65 treatment. It is known as Colon Acidophyllus. Official samples of the product were obtained for further investigation.

Laboratory analysis of a bottle of eye-wash allegedly causing distress to two employees of a Los Angeles manufacturing plant, failed to reveal the presence of irritants.

Fifty-eight dozen containers of a hair lacquer held under quarantine in San Francisco on suspicion of

causing dermatitis, were released for return to the eastern manufacturer. The product will be destroyed under the supervision of the United States Food and Drug Administration.

Liquor Survey

The enormous quantities of inferior so-called whiskey that have been brought into California continued to occupy the attention of the bureau during January. Two thousand more cases of this inferior product were added to the 6,000 cases already having been placed in quarantine. Blends containing 20 per cent whiskey and 80 per cent fruit neutral spirits produced by out-of-State firms of unknown reputation are causing difficulties. The whiskeys quarantined lack the characteristics of whiskey and are regarded as unfit for human consumption. Because of the presence of unpalatable or unpotable brands, rectifying plants in northern and southern California are being checked. Official samples of blends being marketed are being taken as well as of the neutral spirits that are in use. It was found that Cuban cane spirits are being shipped in barrels that formerly contained lard. Although the alcohol had been chilled and filtered, the product formed a precipitate under certain atmospheric conditions and warnings were issued regarding the use of contaminated raw materials. A Cuban imitation whiskey was found in a rectifying plant in Santa Clara County which is not even a good imitation. Forty cases and 650 gallons were quarantined pending disposition of the product. Two thousand and seventy-four cases of blended whiskey originally labeled 86 proof were released following a supervised relabeling to indicate its true alcoholic content—82 proof.

SULFONAMIDES IN PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

The new drugs that have been productive of such remarkable results in the control and prevention of infectious diseases have aroused the interest of laymen as well as professional workers in medicine and public health. "The Journal Lancet," published by the State Medical Societies of Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana, has published a table which indicates the use of the sulfonamides in simple and condensed form. The table appears in connection with an article by Irving J. Bridenstine, M.D., of Montana. None of these drugs, of course, are available except upon the prescription of a licensed practitioner of medicine. The publication of the table here is only for the purpose of clarifying the uses of the sulfonamides in the minds of readers of this publication.

USES OF THE SULFONAMIDES Oral or Parenteral Administration

Condition	Drug of choice
Infections due to Hemolytic Streptococci*— Bacteremia Cellulitis Erysipelas Meningitis Osteomyelitis, and Suppurative Arthritis Otitis Media Peritonitis Pneumonia, and Empyema Puerperal Sepsis	Sulfadiazine in all
* In infections due to Alpha Hemolytic Streptococci Sulfapyridine and Sulfathiazole seem better than Sulfadiazine.	
Infections due to Pneumococci— Bacteremia Meningitis Otitis Media, and Mastoiditis Peritonitis Pneumonia	Sulfadiazine in all
Infections due to Staphylococci— Abscesses, Carbuncles Bacteremia Meningitis Osteomyelitis, and Suppurative Arthritis Pneumonia	Sulfadiazine in all
Infections due to Gonococci— Arthritis Genital Gonorrhea Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Sulfapyridine Sulfathiazole Sulfathiazole
Infections due to Meningococci— Bacteremia Meningitis	Sulfadiazine in all
Urinary Tract Infections— For most organisms B. Coli infections	Sulfathiazole Sulfacetimide
Miscellaneous conditions— Actinomycosis Chancroid Gas Gangrene Dysenteries, and acute enteritis Influenza Bacillus Infections (Especially Meningitic) Skin Infections—Impetigo, etc. Trachoma Undulant Fever Acute Undulant Fever Chronic*	Sulfanilamide* Sulfanilamide or Sulfathiazole Sulfathiazole Sulfasuxidine Sulfanilamide and Sulfapyridine* Sulfathiazole Sulfanilamide Sulfanilamide (7)
* Many controversial reports as to efficacy.	
Prophylaxis— Gonorrhea, following exposure Measles prevention of complications Rheumatic Fever, prevention of recurrences Scarlet Fever, prevention of complications Septic Sore Throat, following exposure Whooping Cough, prevention of complications Wounds, prevention of infection Surgery of gastro-intestinal tract	Sulfathiazole Sulfadiazine Sulfanilamide Sulfadiazine Sulfadiazine Sulfadiazine Sulfadiazine Sulfanilamide Sulfasuxidine
Local Use— Burns Skin infections—impetigo, etc. Surgery—wounds, etc. Chronic infected ulcers	Sulfadiazine in jellies, pastes or ointments or solutions Sulfathiazole in ointments or powder Sulfanilamide Sulfanilamide or Sulfathiazole
Conditions in which Sulfonamides are of doubtful value— Tularemia Plague Malaria Subacute Bacterial Endocarditis	
Conditions in which Sulfonamides have not been proven to have any value— Chorea Smallpox Measles Anthrax Diphtheria Rabies Mumps Influenza Syphilis Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever Rheumatic Fever Chickenpox Poliomyelitis	

SUCCESSFUL VACCINATION CAMPAIGN IN MADERA

Following the discovery of a group of confluent cases of smallpox in Fresno last month, the health officers of California were advised to inaugurate intensive vaccination campaigns in all of the local communities that they serve.

Dr. Lee A. Stone, Health Officer of Madera County, responded with outstanding results. In 15 days more than 8,000 children and adults were vaccinated by the Madera County Health Department. Most of these individuals came voluntarily to the health department from every section of the county. On one day, February 24th, Dr. Stone himself vaccinated 779 persons. On that single day a total of 998 vaccinations were done in two localities of the county. In Chowchilla alone, 1,255 individuals were vaccinated. A very large proportion of those who have been vaccinated returned for a reinspection of their arms. Dr. Stone has had full support of the American Red Cross Nurses Aides, the Parent-Teachers Association and individual volunteers. All of this assistance has made the work of conducting the campaign easier.

It is believed that a decisive factor in the success of the project lies in the fact that large display advertising space was purchased in the newspapers of Madera County to advise the people of the communities involved of the presence of smallpox in an adjoining county and the need for vaccination. By offering vaccination without cost and advising the people of the need for this service, the voluntary response was beyond all expectations.

LOS ANGELES WANTS CHEMISTS

Chemists are being sought by the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission for \$220 to \$260 a month positions in the County Health Department. Applicants for these positions must be university graduates with a major in chemistry. There are no age, residence, or experience requirements. Full information and applications may be obtained from the office of the commission, 102 Hall of Records, Los Angeles 12, California. Applications must be filed on or before Tuesday, March 28, 1944.

I have great faith in the American. He has no fundamental National hatreds or fears. I have heard him lately even accept his responsibility as a world citizen without argument, as if it were already an accomplished fact, beyond discussion. A common heritage! A world heritage and world responsibilities! These are the things upon which our future must be built if we are to survive and have peace.—Louis Bromfield.

VICTORY OVER TYPHOID FEVER

The fact that there were but 167 cases of typhoid fever reported in California in 1943 points to the outstanding success that has been achieved in the control of this readily preventable disease. It was not so many years ago that typhoid fever presented one of the most acute public health problems in California. The disease was, in fact, regarded with a sort of fatalism in many communities of the State. The presence of the disease was accepted with more or less composure and many physicians took pride in their ability to cure cases of the disease but no one was making any claim for awards covering activities in the prevention of typhoid fever.

Some cities drew their water supplies from the same streams into which other cities deposited their sewage. It came to be expected that a certain number of people would annually die of typhoid and there was little or nothing that anyone could do about it.

Fortunately, the general methods for the control of typhoid are relatively simple. If the organism that causes the disease is kept out of water, milk, and other food supplies, and if carriers of the organism are kept under control, there can be no typhoid. Since it is contracted only through the alimentary tract, it is only through the consumption of contaminated water, milk and other food supplies that the disease may be transmitted. After the cities of California began the treatment of their water supplies, the number of reported cases of this disease dropped immediately. To be sure, we still have cases reported but most of them come from communities where sanitary facilities are lacking, although no inconsiderable number is due to carriers—people who have suffered from the disease, but have recovered, and now show no symptoms. Nevertheless, they may still harbor the organism and may contaminate food products through handling.

The pasteurization of milk under State law must also be credited with playing a very important part in the reduction of typhoid fever. Water-borne outbreaks of the disease have not occurred in California for many years and it is only occasionally that cases of the disease may be traced to contaminated milk.

Typhoid is a noteworthy example of a disease that has been conquered through the application of proven scientific methods of control. Other diseases have been almost eliminated through the application of other effective scientific procedures. Among them are smallpox and diphtheria. On the other hand, there are many diseases for which no solution has been found. Influenza, the common cold, infantile paralysis and other serious infectious diseases still remain complete mysteries as to their origin and the exact method of transmission for many of them, in fact, is also unknown at

the present time. Fortunately, many research organizations are studying these diseases in an effort to learn more about them and to develop methods by which they may be controlled.

The conquest of typhoid fever is noteworthy in its indication of the changing relative values in public health. An activity that was regarded as of prime importance 25 years ago may become relatively unimportant today. As public health conditions improve, as solutions are found to both old and new problems, programs in general public health administration must change in order to take advantage of the improved methods and discoveries that have developed. The control of typhoid is an outstanding example of what may be accomplished by improving the environment of the individual rather than exercising control over the individual himself. Man's environment is most important from a public health standpoint. It is quite impossible to maintain good health in an insanitary environment. Man must have plenty of fresh air, a clean place in which to live, and he must eat clean food and drink uncontaminated milk and water. Furthermore, he must, of course, have the proper kinds of food to eat if he may be able to maintain his health.

All of the activities that have to do with the sanitation of the environment are of great importance, not only in the promotion of health in the individual, but also in the prevention of communicable diseases.

No one is able to exactly measure individual resistance to communicable diseases, but it is axiomatic that the individual who is in good physical condition is better able to withstand attacks of communicable disease. Personal hygiene, proper nutrition, rest, and recreation are all important factors in building individual resistance. If all the fundamental laws of nature were observed meticulously and continuously by all members of society, much suffering might be prevented.

Little is said about the failure of man to exercise proper control over himself as a measure in the prevention of disease. Nevertheless, every individual has an obligation to society in doing all that may be possible to maintain his own personal health. There has been a growing tendency to pass the responsibility for individual health over to the health officer. Regardless of the health officer's training, ability, and available resources, he can not deliver health to every individual in the community unless the individual shares his responsibility in maintaining high standards of personal hygiene that are known to build up individual resistance. It is true, as Dr. Herman M. Biggs stated at the turn of the century, that each community can determine its own death rate but, as time advances, public health workers realize that without individual action of each citizen and without a sense of individual responsibility

no community can determine its own death rate. More and more the health of the community depends upon the health of the individual. Unless each member of society exercises personal control over himself, the health of the community as a whole is bound to suffer.

Under our democratic form of government the individual is given great liberty and personal freedom. Along with these great advantages there is a heavy responsibility for if the individual's exercise of freedom develops conditions that are harmful to other members of society, he may become a distinct menace to the public health. Fortunately, public health laws are available for the control of recalcitrant individuals whose actions are detrimental to the health of all people in the community. It has been found, however, that most people are anxious and willing to obey all of the ordinary rules of personal hygiene, provided that they are informed relative to such rules and their need.

The development of a program of health education in the schools has already begun to show results. If the younger generation is thoroughly trained in both personal and public health practices, the effect upon communities in the following generations will be most outstanding in the improvement of public health conditions in general.

There is not such great hope in the education of the adult but, nevertheless, it is important that full information relative to both personal and public health be given to all adults wherever possible. We can hope to achieve results, however, with the education of children throughout the whole elementary and secondary stages of their general education. The greatest development of public health in the future lies in the educational program that may be carried on now among the children of the State.

Public health departments originally were organized for the prevention and control of communicable diseases only. This is still the most important function of every health department but, with the development of new social conditions, other public health functions have developed. Nevertheless, the very heart and soul of all public health lies in the prevention of communicable diseases. All other activities are corollary. Some concern is being expressed at the present time lest undue emphasis be placed upon those activities that are not related to the control of the communicable diseases. There is some apprehension lest public health departments become more concerned with social conditions than with preventive medicine.

The control of typhoid fever, however, is a bright and shining example of what public health may accomplish through the communal application of scientific methods in disease prevention. As knowledge of communicable diseases and their control becomes more extensive,

greater opportunities for the prevention of disease become available. With the full cooperation of all practitioners of medicine and the general public far greater results in disease prevention may be accomplished. Health officers who are able to keep tuberculosis, typhoid fever, smallpox, diphtheria and other communicable diseases under control are worthy guardians of the public health and every member of each community of California where these efficient public servants are laboring should give full support to the application of the procedures that are available for keeping all people happy and healthy.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY UNION LABOR ENDORSES PUBLIC HEALTH

The American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations held an important conference in San Francisco on January 16th at which time far-reaching resolutions in support of general public health, nutrition, and industrial health were passed. The conference was also sponsored by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, the California Labor School, Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, California Social Hygiene Association, San Francisco County Medical Society, San Francisco Public Health Department, California Tuberculosis Association, San Francisco Tuberculosis Association, Mental Hygiene Society, California Department of Public Health, San Francisco Nutrition Council and the Bay Area Nutrition in Industry.

It was reported that there are 893,330 persons employed in the eight counties of the San Francisco Bay area, of which number more than 600,000 are engaged in war industries or related employment. It was held that the health of workers is vital to prevent loss of man-hours and to insure maximum production and that the health of the families of workers is necessary to their sense of security and peace of mind without which morale and efficiency of the workers are impaired.

The conference was attended by 250 men and women, representatives of five labor councils and thirty union locals, themselves representing 300,000 workers. In addition, there were 85 medical, health and housing agencies represented. The University of California took an important part in the meeting and many individual practitioners of medicine attended.

The discussion was free and unrestrained. A conspicuous result is noted in the lively curiosity of labor to know about professional health activities. Professional workers were interested in learning how labor will inform the ranks of workers on essential public health procedures and spur them to action.

A Continuation Committee set up an Inter-Union Committee with a Professional Advisory Committee. It is the intention of these committees to see that the conference resolutions that follow are put into action and to enlist the support of every community group that is sympathetic with the aims of the conference.

Following are the resolutions that were passed at the meeting:

RESOLUTIONS ON PUBLIC HEALTH

1. The unions are urged to initiate and sponsor mass X-ray surveys of tuberculosis and mass examinations for venereal disease. Wherever possible, these surveys should be initiated by the unions directly or by labor-management committees where they exist. Results of these tests are to be communicated only to the individual concerned and to the individual's physician.

2. Tuberculosis care must be made available to all residents of the State. The conference urges all unions to unite behind an amendment to the present State residence statute and to eliminate that section which now bars many residents from necessary care.

3. The conference urges all unions to acquaint themselves with the health needs of their communities and the programs of the public health departments, to work with health departments in the improvement of services and facilities and to urge the appropriation of adequate funds for public health services.

4. The conference recommends that all unions urge that adequate provision be made in the curriculum of public schools for health education, and faculties be specially trained for this teaching. The conference also urges all unions to institute a program of health education for members and their families, utilizing the materials and services which are available from established public and private agencies.

5. The conference recommends that a labor advisory committee consisting of one representative each of the A. F. L., C. I. O., and Railway Brotherhoods be appointed by the State Department of Public Health, by each city and county Department of Public Health and by various health associations such as the Tuberculosis Association, the Social Hygiene Association, etc. The purpose of these standing committees shall be to facilitate union-government-professional-public cooperation in the public health field.

6. The health departments of Richmond and El Cerrito are administered by health officers who are employed only part-time and who are assisted by personnel inadequate in numbers to meet the health needs of the tremendously increased population of these areas.

As a result, there is a serious lack of essential health services including immunization of school children,

control of communicable diseases, and enforcement of sanitary laws and regulations.

The failure by the cities of Richmond and El Cerrito to provide public health service adequate for the needs of the people who live in these areas menaces the health of war workers and their families and consequently affects detrimentally the successful prosecution of the war.

Therefore, the Bay Area Union Health Conference petitions the city government of Richmond and El Cerrito to institute adequate public health programs under the direction of competent full-time health officers.

Copies of this resolution are to be sent to the mayors and city councils of Richmond and El Cerrito, the Governor, State War Council, Director of the State Department of Public Health, and United States Public Health Service.

RESOLUTIONS ON NUTRITION

I. Sanitation

Be it resolved that adequate supervision be afforded in-plant feeding installations to insure proper sanitation in such establishments. It is recommended that the State Bureau of Food and Drug Inspection and local Health Department appoint sufficient personnel to insure proper inspection of such facilities.

Amendment: Be it resolved that a copy of all recommendations be sent to all labor unions.

II. Education

Be it resolved that the labor organization cooperate with the local and State organization in an effort to promote an educational nutrition program into the homes of the working people.

Amendment: Be it resolved that there be established an educational program for the benefit of those who are responsible for feeding the workers in in-plant feeding programs.

III.

Be it resolved that in the event that the Continuation Committee of this conference is established, that a subcommittee on Nutrition and Industrial Feeding Problems also be established.

IV.

Be it resolved that greater use be made of qualified nutritionists in the planning of menus and in the development and supervision of feeding facilities.

Where possible, such personnel should be employed by management of the larger plants. In cases where this is not feasible, because of the small size of the plant, lack of qualified personnel, or other reasons, assistance can be obtained from nutritionists who are on the staffs of State Department of Public Health, local Health Departments, and the WFA, or who are members of County Nutrition Committees.

Be it resolved that in each plant labor should cooperate with management and the local, State and Federal agencies to make arrangements for hot lunches for the workers. The persistent efforts of the Food Distribution Administration in this direction are recognized and supported. The initiative given to this work by the committee at Bethlehem and the Bay Area Metal Trades Council should be an example to all other unions where this problem exists.

RESOLUTIONS ON INDUSTRIAL HEALTH

The All-Union Health Conference, January 16, 1944, at Civic Auditorium, San Francisco, recommends:

1. That unions designate members in each plant to serve as union safety committee members and also set up central local union safety committees.

2. That union safety committees in each plant form a plant-wide safety committee on which representatives of management and management safety departments are to be asked to serve. Such committees should seek causes of accidents and ask for action to eliminate these causes and to enforce safety procedures.

3. That plant-wide safety committees issue educational material signed by both labor and management.

4. That the conference request business representatives from all local unions participating in this conference to contact all accident and health bureaus.

5. That the continuation committee of this conference investigate the problem of preplacement medical examination by labor and management in industry.

6. That the conference favor more strict enforcement of already existing industrial health laws, and an increased State budget for this purpose.

7. That the conference set up a committee to aid in finance and manpower on industrial health and accident problems.

America must go forward. We are not going back to the so-called good old days, because we can go ahead to better days.—Governor John W. Bricker.



